

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 1, with the following new paragraph:

As illustrated in ~~Figure 1~~ the Figure, the disclosed sampler includes a culturing container 1 in which liquid nutrient media 3 is contained. Specially formulated media, selective or non-selective can be utilized. Under the appropriate incubation temperature a selected class of microorganisms can optimally grow. The media can also include indicator substances to detect chemical changes occurring in the media due to metabolic processes associated with microbial growth. Dye or fluorescence indicators sensitive to pH, redox or enzymatic reactions can be utilized for selective and non-selective detection of microbial growth. The magnitude of the bio-burden i.e. bacterial concentration can also be measured, as explained below.